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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

UNCC

COUNTRY	USSR(Estonia)	DATE DISTR	12 JAN 54
SUBJECT	Sillamae Oil Shale Refinery/Reported Jarva Jaani Refinery	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
DATE ACQUIRED		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	25X1
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2. After the carbonization process the wash oil expanded in an evaporizer and entered fractionizing columns where separation took place in to: Distillate I (crude gasoline), Distillate II (reused as wash oil), and residue.

In the refinery caustic soda solution and litharge were added continuously by means of Laval centrifuges. Treatment with sulphuric acid was used as well as the addition of hydroquinone to prevent the formation of gums. Sweetening was done by means of litharge. Redistillation was in three stages. The refinery and redistillation losses amounted to four per cent of the total gasoline production. An average of 18% of crude gasoline was obtained from the total production of crude shale oil. The yield of marketable products from the crude gasoline was as follows:

Gasoline, boiling range 122° to 320°F, about 70%
Tractor gasoline, boiling range 320° to 392°F, about 20%
Residue 6%
Losses 4%

This refinery produced from 1936 to 1943 approximately 100 thousand barrels gasoline and 44 thousand barrels tractor gasoline. The refinery was one of the smallest in the oil shale industry and was destroyed by USSR bombing in late 1943. The German expansion program foresaw no expansion of this plant but rather its shutdown and concentration of all oil refining facilities at the three major plants of Kivioli, Kohtla-Jarve and Ahtme.

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any commodities other than oil shale derivatives to be treated here. It is possible that the Soviets rebuilt the refinery because of its favorable location for sea transportation of products. It is also possible that the Soviets use the Sillamae plant because of its remoteness from the other oil shale centers for investigations aiming at the recovery of the minute (200 gr per one metric ton) uranium deposits in the spent shale and shale ash. But for this purpose a "refinery" is hardly the suitable instrument.

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a refinery located at Jarva Jaani which is about 50 miles from the nearest oil shale plant, had up to 1944 no railroad connection, no power line, no highway connection worth while mentioning, and no natural cooling water facilities. Definitely no refinery was planned here up to 1944. Therefore it is very unlikely that such a refinery started working in 1945. The only justification for a later development at this site might be its strategically remote location from other bombing targets.

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